

ABSTRACT

A hatch cover with spring assembly to assist in lifting open the hatch cover lid. The lid is hinged to a frame so it can be rotated about the hinge to an open position. A spring or a pair of springs are attached to the underside of the lid. Each spring is a torsion spring having one arm selectively attached to the lid, and another arm in sliding contact with the frame. For ease of repair or replacement, the spring is attached only to the lid. In addition, attaching the spring to the lid allows the spring to retract when the lid is opened. The method for assembling the hatch includes the step of selectively attaching the spring to the lid underside. This step may be performed when the lid is detached from the frame.